

25 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Plans
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ATTENTION: Mr. [REDACTED], CS Historical Board
SUBJECT: Status of Special Operations Division's
Historical Program
REFERENCE: ADDP Memo to CS Division and Staff
Chiefs, dated 16 March 1971, Subject:
CS Historical Program

1. Seventeen histories falling under the cognizance of the Special Operations Division have been completed. While there have been no additional histories completed and published since the last one in August 1970, we currently have nine more in process and one which has been suspended part way through due to transfer of the writer to another assignment outside the division. Seven of the nine writers currently assigned to [REDACTED]'s Historical Program are committed on a full-time basis, and are functioning under the direct supervision of our senior writer, [REDACTED].

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2. During the first half of FY 1971 [REDACTED] committed 26 man-months to the writing of history, with 80 percent of this investment coming from full-time assignments. In this third quarter of FY '71 we have invested 20 man-months, with 97 percent arising from the seven individuals assigned full-time. These seven are scheduled to continue on through the fourth quarter, and one additional officer was notified in January of his assignment to the program full-time beginning 15 April 1971.

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3. This past December [REDACTED] entire Historical Program was reviewed. Priorities were assigned to the individual histories on the basis of value in terms of anticipated "lessons learned" from each and on the expected availability of qualified writers. One history was cancelled, following an assessment of initial research on the subject, and the writer assigned to another subject.

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4. Of the seventeen "catch-up" histories not finished and thus currently remaining on [REDACTED] Program, the drafts of eight will be completed by the end of this fiscal year (30 June 1971), according to our present timetable. The ninth may be completed by then, and the tenth should follow in August or September. Our intention is that the eleventh (the one suspended due to transfer of the writer) will be picked up and completed by then, as well.

5. In review, seventeen histories on special operations subjects have been completed. Seventeen histories remain scheduled. Eleven of these are scheduled for completion by September 1971. Completion of the remaining six depends on the availability of qualified manpower.

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6. Since [REDACTED] is facing position cuts again in FY 1972, it is uncertain just what quantity of manpower will be available during the first half of FY 1972 to complete the "catch-up" phase by 31 December 1971. Obviously, current operational requirements take precedence. Also it is our experience that writing history on a part-time basis is extremely challenging, at best, and probably totally unrealistic, inasmuch as the individual continually gets drawn into the on-going operations and requirements of the moment. Thus, we feel we must depend on full-time assignments insofar as possible.

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7. [REDACTED] should complete 82 percent of its "catch-up" histories by 31 December 1971, and perhaps even 91 percent. However, the projected availability of qualified manpower suggests that 100 percent completion will not be possible until the end of FY 1972.

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Historical Officer

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